

MASTER OF SCIENCE IN CONTRACT MANAGEMENT

**THE EFFECT OF ACQUISITION REFORM ON SMALL BUSINESS PARTICIPATION IN THE
FEDERAL MARKETPLACE**

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In this thesis, the impact of acquisition reform on small businesses in the Federal procurement arena is examined. The thesis traces the origins of acquisition reform and examines acquisition reform legislation. The thesis also details the major laws and regulations that govern small business participation in the Federal procurement arena. The results of a survey of small businesses are presented in order to show first hand how small businesses have been effected by acquisition reform.

KEYWORDS: Acquisition Reform, Small Business, Contracting, Contract Bundling, Electronic Commerce, Multiple Award Schedules, Reverse Auctions